

B6 3. (amended) A polypeptide isolated from a microorganism which comprises a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8 shown in the Sequence Listing, wherein one or more amino acid residues of the amino acid sequence are modified by at least one of deletion, addition, insertion and substitution, and also having an activity to act upon a disaccharide glycoside to release saccharides from said disaccharide glycoside in a disaccharide unit.

4. (amended) A polypeptide isolated from a microorganism which comprises a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8 shown in the Sequence Listing.

B7 11. (amended) A method for producing an enzyme having an activity to act upon a disaccharide glycoside to release saccharides from said disaccharide glycoside in a disaccharide unit, which comprises culturing a microorganism in a nutrient medium to effect production of the enzyme having an activity to act upon a disaccharide glycoside to release saccharides from said disaccharide glycoside in a disaccharide unit, and subsequently collecting said enzyme from the resulting culture mixture,

wherein said enzyme has a substantial activity even at pH 3 or less and is stable at 50°C or less.

B8 13. (amended) The method for producing an enzyme having an activity to act upon a disaccharide glycoside to release saccharides from said disaccharide glycoside in a disaccharide unit according to claim 11 or 12, wherein the enzyme is inducible by addition of a saccharide to the nutrient medium.

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B8 14. (amended) The method for producing an enzyme according to claim 13, wherein the saccharide is selected from the group consisting of gentose, gentiobiose, and gentio-oligosaccharide.

Please add the following new claim:

B9 21. (new) A polypeptide isolated from a microorganism which comprises a polypeptide having an amino acid homology of at least 50% with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:8 shown in the Sequence Listing, and also having an activity to act upon a disaccharide glycoside to release saccharides from said disaccharide glycoside in a disaccharide unit.
